

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----129758 211725Z /43

O R 211655Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7663
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 NICOSIA 1076

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, CY, TU
SUBJECT: GOC REACTION TO TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSALS AND NEXT
STEP

SUMMARY. FONMIN ROLANDIS GAVE ME REASONS FOR GOC'S
DECISION TO REJECT TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSALS APRIL 21.
IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION HE AGREED IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE
FOR HIM TO MEET QUIETLY WITH ERTEKUN DURING THE COUNCIL
OF EUROPE MEETING BOTH WILL BE ATTENDING IN STRASBOURG
APRIL 25-28. END SUMMARY.

1. FONMIN ROLANDIS ASKED ME TO CALL AFTERNOON OF APRIL
21 AND PROCEEDED TO GIVE ME RUNDOWN ON GOC REACTION TO
TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSALS IN SIMILAR TERMS TO THOSE USED
BY PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU IN HIS APRIL 19 PRESS CONFERENCE.

2. ROLANDIS SAID THAT PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU HAD INFORMED
SECGEN WALDHEIM THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSALS WERE
TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE EVEN AS A BASIS FOR NEGOTIATION.
HE SAID THAT THE GOC HAD BEEN PREPARED TO EXAMINE THE
PROPOSALS WITH GOODWILL BUT AFTER STUDYING THEM THEY
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COULD NOT FIND A "SINGLE GROUND" WHICH WOULD JUSTIFY THE
RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS. WITH REGARD TO TERRITORY,
THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS HAD OFFERED THE BUFFER ZONE AND AN
ADDITIONAL ONE TO ONE AND ONE-HALF PERCENT OF THE LAND
AREA. SUCH A PROPOSAL WAS COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE.
WITH REGARD TO VAROSHA, TURKISH CYPRIOTS WERE PREPARED TO
ACCEPT A NUMBER OF REFUGEES TO LIVE THERE UNDER TURKISH

ADMINISTRATION WHICH WAS TANTAMOUNT TO THE CREATION OF FURTHER ENCLAVES.

3. AS REGARDS THE CONSTITUTION, HE SAID THAT WHILE THE TURKISH CYPRIOT POPULATION CONSISTED OF SOME 18 PERCENT THEY WERE ASKING FOR EQUALITY IN EVERYTHING. THE PROPOSALS ACTUALLY CALLED FOR A DIVISION OF THE COUNTRY INTO TWO SEPARATE STATES EACH OF WHICH WOULD BE FULLY SELF SUFFICIENT WITH ITS OWN EXECUTIVE, LEGISLATURE AND JUDICIARY. THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT WOULD BE A "GHOST." ONE COULD BE CERTAIN THAT MATTERS WOULD BE DEADLOCKED BECAUSE OF THE PROPOSED STRUCTURE OF THE ASSEMBLY WITH EQUAL PARTICIPATION OF THE TWO STATES. IF A DIFFERENCE OCCURRED BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION IN THE ASSEMBLY, ONE WOULD HAVE TO ASSUME THAT THE ASSEMBLY WOULD BE DEADLOCKED. FURTHERMORE, THERE WAS NO PROVISION FOR SUCH BASIC RIGHTS AS FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT, FREEDOM OF OWNERSHIP AND "FREEDOM OF ESTABLISHMENT."

4. PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU HAD TOLD THE SYG THAT THE GOC DID NOT CONSIDER IT SENSIBLE TO RECONVENE THE INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES. IF, DESPITE THIS, HE WERE TO DO SO AND IF GOC WERE TO DECIDE TO ATTEND, WHICH FONMIN INTERJECTED, HAS NOT YET BEEN DETERMINED, THE RESULT WOULD BE A FIASCO.

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5. ROLANDIS SAID THE GOC WAS VERY DISAPPOINTED, THAT THEY HAD EXPECTED SOMETHING BETTER. THE WHOLE CONCEPT WAS WRONG BECAUSE ONECE TURKISH CYPRIOTS ASKED FOR 50 PERCENT PARTICIPATION IN THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE GO C TO CLAIM THAT THEY WERE ENTITLED TO 51 PERCENT. IF THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS HAD ASKED FOR 49 PERCENT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN EASIER TO TRY TO NEGOTIATE THEM DOWN BUT SINCE THEY ASKED FOR 50 PERCENT THEY MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE. PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU HAD TOLD THE SYG THAT IT WAS NOT IN THE INTEREST OF HIS OWN PRESTIGE TO CALL FOR RESUMPTION OF THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES.

6. FONMIN ASKED ME TO CALL THESE VIEWS TO THE ATTENTION OF MY GOVERNMENT AND ALSO TO EXPRESS THE DISSATISFACTION AND DISILLUSIONMENT THAT HAD BEEN FLET BY THE GOC. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT THESE PROPOSALS PROVED THAT "THE EMBARGO IS NEEDED." HE ASKED RHETORICALLY IF THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS WOULD DO THIS WITH THE EMARGO IN EFFECT, WHAT WOULD THEY DO IF THE EMBARGO WERE LIFTED.

7. ROLANDIS THEN WENT ON TO EXPLORE WITH ME WHAT THE

NEXT STEP MIGHT BE. COMMENT: IT IS CHARACTERISTIC
OF THE MAN TO TRY TO SOLVE PROBLEMS AND I CONSIDER IT FORTUNATE
THAT HE IS IN HIS PRESENT POSITION. END COMMENT.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 NICOSIA 1076

EXDIS

WHEN I INQUIRED ABOUT HIS OWN PLANS, HE SAID HE WOULD BE
LEAVING APRIL 23 FOR ATHENS WHERE HE WOULD MEET
PRIMIN CARAMANLIS. ON APRIL 25 HE WOULD GO ON TO
STRASBOURG TO ATTEND THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE. I ASKED IF
HE EXPECTED ANY TURKISH REPRESENTATIVES THERE AND HE SAID
HE UNDERSTOOD FONMIN OKCUN AND THE TURKISH CYPRIOT
NEGOTIATOR'S ADVISER, NECATI MUNIR ERTEKUN, WOULD BE
THERE. WHEN I INQUIRED IF HE HAD KNOWN ERTEKUN, HE TOLD
ME HE HAD KNOW HIM QUITE WELL IN THE PERIOD 1960-63
WHEN ERTEKUN WAS SERVING AS DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE THE
REPUBLIC BUT, HE ADDED, HE HAD NOT HAD ANY CONTACT WITH
HIM SINCE 1963. HE CONTINUED THAT HE CONSIDERED ERTEKUN
AN HONORABLE, DECENT AND STRAIGHTFORWARD MAN. I ENCOURAGED
HIM TO TRY AND HAVE A QUITE MEETING WITH ERTEKUN TO SEE
IF THEY COULD NOT COME UP WITH SOME IDEAS ON HOW TO
PROCEED. AFTER SOME FURTHER DISCUSSION, ROLANDIS AGREED
THAT THIS WOULD BE DESIRABLE BUT SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO
GET THE AUTHORIZATION OF PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU THOUGH HE
SAW NO REASON WHY THE PRESIENT WOULD INTERPOSE AN
OBJECTION.

8. THE FOREING MINISTER PLANS TO REMAIN I
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STRASBOURG UNTIL APRIL 30 WHEN HE HOPES TO GO TO
GENEVA TO VISIT HIS MOTHER-IN-LAW AND INTENDS TO
RETURN TO NICOSIA MAY 3. HE ASSURED ME HE WOULD BE
IN TOUCH PROMPTLY ON HIS RETURN TO INFORM ME OF ANY
FORTHHER DEVELOPMENTS.
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